

AMENDMENTS IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph **[0001]** with the following paragraph:

[0001] This application is a divisional application of pending Application Serial No. 09/799,317, filed March 5, 2001, now US Patent 6,613,801, which claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/207,343, filed May 30, 2000.

Please replace paragraph **[0084]** with the following paragraph:

[0084] The following assay method is utilized to identify compounds of Formula (I) which are effective in binding with RAGE, and hence useful as modulators, preferably antagonists of RAGE. This method is also described in US Patent No. 6,908,741. ~~and claimed in co-pending U.S. Serial No. _____ (Attorney Docket No. TTP2000-02) filed on this date.~~